

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ANKARA 04450 01 OF 02 091458Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----091539Z 002159 /53

O R 091412Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7797
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
EUCOM
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ANKARA 4450

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: POST-ELECTION UNCERTAINTY

REF: ANKARA 4388 (DTG 081010Z JUN 77)

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING THE FAILURE OF ANY PARTY TO WIN
A MAJORITY OR NEAR-MAJORITY JUNE 5, THE POST-ELECTION
ATMOSPHERE IS MARKED BY MANEUVERING AND UNCERTAINTY. REPUBLICAN
PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN ECEVIT, 13 SEATS SHORT OF
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ANKARA 04450 01 OF 02 091458Z

A MAJORITY, CONTINUES TO EXPRESS OPTIMISM THAT HE WILL LEAD
THE NEXT GOVERNMENT. HE HAS INDICATED INTEREST IN FORMING
A MINORITY GOVERNMENT WHICH COULD GET PAST ITS INITIAL VOTE
OF CONFIDENCE BY ATTRACTING TRANSFERS OF DEPUTIES FROM OTHER
PARTIES (TO WIN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, ONLY A MAJORITY OF THOSE
PRESENT AND VOTING IS REQUIRED). MEANWHILE, PRIMIN DEMIREL
IS CALLING FOR THE UNITY OF RIGHTIST PARTIES TO PREVENT "THE

LEFT" FROM TAKING POWER. NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN, IN BELLIGERENT DISPLAY AT A JUNE 8 PRESS CONFERENCE, TRIED TO PROJECT THE IMAGE THAT HE IS IN CONTROL OF HIS PARTY AND IS THE KEY IN GOVERNMENT-MAKING PROCESS. POST-ELECTION SCENARIOS MOST FREQUENTLY DISCUSSED AT THE PRESENT TIME ARE: (A) ECEVIT-LED GOVERNMENT, EITHER A MINORITY GOVERNMENT OR ONE THAT HAS A BARE MAJORITY THROUGH DEFECTIONS OBTAINED FROM OTHER PARTIES, (B) RPP-NSP COALITION, OR (C) A COALITION OF RIGHTIST PARTIES. THERE IS STILL NO BASIS FOR PREDICTING HOW SOON A GOVERNMENT CAN BE FORMED. END SUMMARY.

2. THE UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS AS ANNOUNCED IN ALL PAPERS JUNE 8 (REFTEL) HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE HIGH ELECTION BOARD. THUS THE NEW PARLIAMENT IS REQUIRED TO CONVENE NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JUNE 13, AT WHICH TIME THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT PRESUMABLY WILL RESIGN AND THE PRESIDENT WILL DESIGNATE A NEW PRIMIN. MEANWHILE, THE PARTIES ARE MANEUVERING TOWARD A VERY UNCERTAIN FUTURE.

3. IN HIS JUNE 8 MEETING WITH THE PRESS, ECEVIT INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO FORM A MINORITY RPP GOVERNMENT AND SEEK TRANSFERS AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER PARTIES. ECEVIT SAID THAT THE RPP CANNOT RPT NOT COOPERATE WITH THE JUSTICE PARTY (JP) OR NATIONALIST ACTION PARTY (NAP), BUT HE LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF ACCOMMODATION WITH THE NSP. (THE RPP PRESS SPOKESMAN TOLD A U.S. CORRESPONDENT THAT THE RPP MIGHT EXPLORE A FORMULA INVOLVING INITIALLY NSP SUPPORT FOR A MINORITY GOVERNMENT, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF AN RPP-,-NSP COALITION TO BE TAKEN UP LATER.) THE RPP CHAIRMAN CHARACTERIZED THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ANKARA 04450 01 OF 02 091458Z

ELECTION RESULTS AS A "DEFEAT FOR FASCISM" IN TURKEY.

4. DURING A TABLE-THUMPING PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 8, NSP CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN CLAIMED THAT HIS PARTY HAS EMERGED AS A STRONGER KEY TO GOVERNMENT FORMATION THAN IN THE 1973 ELECTION. SAYING THAT THE TWO LARGE PARTIES SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO FLOUNDER AND TRY TO FORM A GOVERNMENT, ERBAKAN ASSERTED THAT HE IS IN NO HURRY TO SEE A GOVERNMENT FORMED AND THAT HE WILL WAIT FOR THE RPP OR JP TO COME BEGGING TO HIM. "THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED HERE," HE TOLD REPORTERS. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE ARE PRESS REPORTS (EHICH MAY WELL BE SPECULATIVE) OF SERIOUS NEW DISSENSION WITHIN THE NSP. THE PARTY WAS SHAKEN DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN BY SCANDAL AND THE DEFECTION OF THE NURCU FACTION, AND IT WON ONLY HALF AS MANY SEATS THIS YEAR AS IN 1973. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS STORIES, INTRA-PARTY SQUABBLING HAS LED EIGHT TO TEN NSP DEPUTIES TO THREATEN TO BREAK AWAY AND ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH THE RPP, WHILE THE JP HAS APPROACHED ANOTHER FACTION OF THE PARTY. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THE RUMOR THAT THE PARTY MAY PRODUCE

NEW LEADERSHIP.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ANKARA 04450 02 OF 02 091527Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 /065 W
-----091538Z 002648 /53

O R 091412Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7798
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
EUCOM
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 ANKARA 4450

5. IN HIS JUNE 8 COMMENTS TO THE PRESS, PRIMIN DEMIREL
AGAIN STATED THAT A MINORITY GOVERNMENT IS IMPOSSIBLE. HE
NOTED THAT A COALITION BETWEEN HIS JP AND THE RPP IS AGAINST
THE "LAWS OF NATURE". CONTINUING HIS CAMPAIGN THEME THAT
THE RPP IS A DANGEROUS PARTY OF THE LEFT, HE CRITICIZED
ECEVIT FOR DECLARING VICTORY BEFORE THE RESULTS WERE FINAL
AND MAKING PRONOUNCEMENTS ABOUT WHAT HE WOULD DO AS
PRIME MINISTER. POINTING TO THE FACT THAT THE PARTIES OF
THE NATIONALIST FRONT COALITION WHICH HE LED INCREASED THEIR
SEATS FROM THE 209 THEY HELD WHEN THE COALITION WAS FORMED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ANKARA 04450 02 OF 02 091527Z

IN MARCH 1975 TO 232 TODAY, DEMIREL DID NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF FORMING A NEW NATIONALIST FRONT.

6. REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) CHAIRMAN FEYZIOGLU TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE DOES NOT ENVISAGE HIS THREE-SEAT PARTY'S ENTERING ANY GOVERNMENT COALITION. CLAIMING THAT HE WILL NOT COMPROMISE WITH EXTREMIST GROUPS, HE PUT THE ONUS FOR THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT CRISIS ON THE JP AND RPP FOR ASSURING THE VOTERS THAT ONE-PARTY GOVERNMENT WAS NECESSARY TO SOLVE TURKEY'S PROBLEMS AND THEN FAILING TO ACHIEVE THAT RESULT. A REPORT IN MILLIYET JUNE 9 SAID THAT THE RPP DEPUTY ELECTED IN KAYSERI HAS ASKED FEYZIOGLU TO COOPERATE WITH ECEVIT'S RPP OR HE WILL RESIGN.

7. COMMENT: THERE ARE SEVERAL POST-ELECTION SCENARIOS PRESENTLY BEING DISCUSSED HERE. THE FIRST, AN ECEVIT-LED GOVERNMENT -- EITHER A MINORITY GOVERNMENT PERMITTED BY ABSTENTIONS FROM OTHER PARTIES OR AN ECEVIT MAJORITY GOVERNMENT BASED ON HIS BEING ABLE TO WIN A SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY DEFECTORS FROM THE OTHER PARTIES -- SEEMS TO BE THE ONE TO WHICH ECEVIT IS MOST INCLINED AT THIS TIME. WHILE EITHER OF THESE SOLUTIONS WOULD SAVE ECEVIT FROM BEING HOBBOLED BY COALITION PARTNERS, SUCH A GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT-- AT LEAST INITIALLY--HAVE A STRONG BASE, AND IT WOULD RISK MAKING THE RPP CLEARLY TO BLAME IF IT CANNOT MAKE HEADWAY AGAINST TURKEY'S PROBLEMS. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, AN RPP COALITION WITH THE OBSTRUCTIONIST ERBAKAN-LED NSP, IS POSSIBLE BUT CERTAINLY UNATTRACTIVE TO ECEVIT. HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE NO OTHER WAY FOR THE RPP TO COME TO POWER. A THIRD POSSIBILITY BEING TALKED OF IS THE FORMATION OF A NEW DEMIREL-LED COALITION OF RIGHTIST PARTIES WHICH WOULD INCLUDE PART OR ALL OF THE NSP AND THEREFORE WOULD BE CRIPPLED TO ABOUT THE SAME DEGREE AS THE COALITION THAT HAS BEEN IN POWER FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS. AT THIS POINT, THERE IS NO BASIS FOR PREDICTING HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE BEFORE A PARLIAMENTARY-APPROVED GOVERNMENT IS IN POWER.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ANKARA 04450 02 OF 02 091527Z

MACOMBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, ELECTION FORECASTS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA04450
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770206-0118
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770675/aaaacnur.tel
Line Count: 215
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d23d1782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANKARA 4388
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2220286
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POST-ELECTION UNCERTAINTY
TAGS: PINT, TU, (ECEVIT, BULENT), (ERBAKAN, NECMETTIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d23d1782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009